

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 12-17, 21-26, 28-31, 33, and 35 are pending in the present application, Claims 1, 16, 33, and 35 having been amended, and Claims 32 and 34 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for the amendments to Claims 1 and 16 are found in Claims 32 and 34, respectively. Claims 33 and 35 are amended to correct a minor antecedent basis informality. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-3, 5, 16, 17, 28, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Leung et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,653,718, hereinafter Leung) in view of Brewer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,322,600, hereinafter Brewer); Claims 4, 6 and 26 were rejected under 35U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Leung in view of Brewer, and further in view of Gu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,551,901, hereinafter Gu); Claims 8, 9, 12-15, 21-25, 31, 33 and 35 were allowed; and Claims 32 and 34 were objected for depending from rejected base claims, but were indicated as including allowable subject matter.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 8, 9, 12-15, 21-25, 29, 31, 33, and 35, and for the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 32 and 34. In light of this indication, Claims 1 and 16 are amended to include the subject matter of Claims 32 and 34, respectively. Accordingly, Claims 1 and 16 (and any claims dependent thereon) are in condition for allowance.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for formal allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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